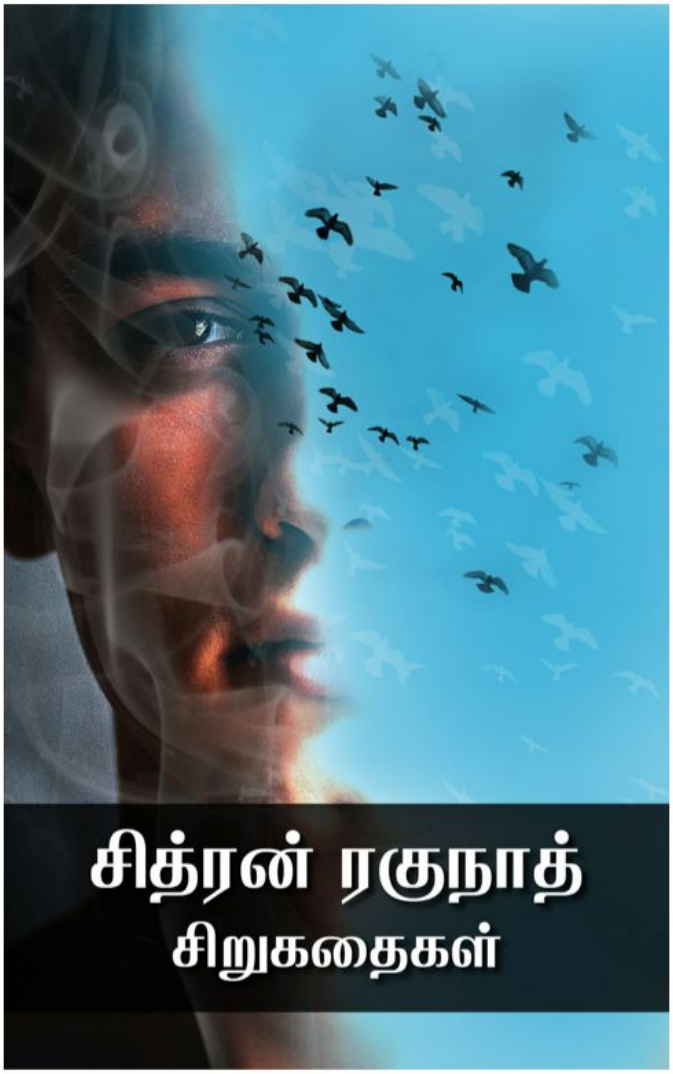
Chithiran Ragunath’s “Thodarbu Yellaiku Veliye”

thelifeofmine3.wordpress.com/2024/07/14/2-chithiran-ragunaths-thodarbu-yellaiku-veliye/

July 14, 2024



“Orange Pazham” tells the story of a young man frustrated with his close relatives, his uncle (periappa) and aunt (periamma). He moved away from home for a job recommended by his uncle, and although he got the job and passed the interview, his aunt took care of everything for him, treating him like a child. She even peeled an orange for him, which annoyed him further because he felt they didn’t see him as an adult and invaded his privacy. Feeling sophisticated and wanting his independence back, he decided to confront them, even though he knew it might hurt their feelings.

Before he could speak to them, he noticed a gate opening from his neighbor's house where he saw a girl coming out. They exchanged glances and smiles, which intrigued him. The next day, feeling conflicted, he got ready for work at his aunt and uncle's house.

"Peru" (Pregnancy) tells the story of a couple who, after many years, finally became pregnant. They were initially worried due to the doctor's advice that the wife needed to avoid strenuous work and be very careful because of her advanced age. They had a maid previously, but circumstances led to them being without one for a while. Unexpectedly, their old maid, whose mother had previously worked for them, returned. The maid's daughter, who had just finished her SSLC exams, became their maid during this time. The couple tried to persuade her to continue her studies, but she eventually married a relative a few months later.

Despite hiring many maids afterwards, none suited them. One day, the young maid heard the news and asked to return as their maid. The husband noticed how much the young girl had matured from a school-age girl into a woman within a few years. He felt sorry for her and her husband, who seemed aimless after discontinuing his studies. On his way home from the office, the husband decided to help the young maid's husband find a job to improve their situation and ensure she could take good care of his pregnant wife. However, upon arriving home and finding his wife doing housework, he became angry and asked where the maid was. His wife calmly replied, "She is pregnant."

"Azhagiya Theeye" tells the story of a 35-year-old woman who is unmarried and worried about her aging, noticing gray hair in the mirror. Unexpectedly, she meets her college friend who had a one-sided love for her during their college days. He tries to impress her and proposes to her in a coffee shop, but she doesn't give him an answer.

Later, in a similar setting, he expresses that he still has feelings for her and gives her an ultimatum: if she's interested, she should reach out to him; otherwise, she can leave him like she did in the coffee shop. After much contemplation and anticipation, the next day she calls his number and asks him for "coffee."

"Malai Kadhal" tells the story of a married couple where the husband mostly works from home while his wife is busy with her office job. One special day, he hears a song that triggers memories of their courtship days. He reminisces about how he used to call her office landline, inviting her to meet and sharing romantic moments over the phone. These memories bring him joy and longing for those cherished times.

Inspired by these thoughts, he decides to recreate a romantic gesture. As he walks along a rain-drenched path, he reaches a telephone booth and calls his wife's office. When she answers and asks who's calling, he playfully responds with a phrase they often used during their courtship, saying, "Hey darling, come to the Divine Theatre." Suddenly, a breeze touches him, and he feels a rush of old bliss in his life once again.

"Nirupama Sila Kuripugal" is a humorous story about a group of boys teasing a guy who decided to declares his love for Nirupama, a well-known figure in their college who had rejected numerous proposals from seniors and other students. They mock him,

doubting his chances. However, unexpectedly, he manages to get introduced to Nirupama and strikes up a conversation with her. Surprisingly, she eventually falls for him. At a friends' gathering later on, his friends are astounded by his success and ask how he managed to win her over after so many rejections. Nirupama simply responds with shy, "Until now, no one else has proposed to me except him."

"Anartham" portrays a story about a divorced couple who later reunite in the presence of the man's father. They inquire about the true reasons for their separation, but both dismiss it as an old story not worth discussing. They each blame the other for their breakup. The father eventually understands their feelings and reveals that he and his wife never married, despite being in love. They decided to live together without the support of their families when their friends failed to show up at the registration office. This revelation surprises their son and daughter-in-law.

Continuing, the father questions why his daughter-in-law cried after the divorce and why his son still keeps their wedding photo, even though they are divorced. He concludes by stating that love holds more value than marriage or divorce and leaves them to contemplate his words.